

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1 and 11-13 to further clarify the invention. Applicant also cancels claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

I. Preliminary Matters

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority and for indicating receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for returning the initialed forms PTO/SB/08 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statements filed on December 2, 2003, September 14, 2007, and November 5, 2007. Applicant further thanks the Examiner for indicating acceptance of the drawing figures.

II. Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-7, 9-11, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,040,074 to Stemmler (hereinafter "Stemmler"). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stemmler in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0098984 to Botten et al. (hereinafter "Botten") and claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stemmler in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,710,634 to Kuriyama et al. (hereinafter "Kuriyama"). Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejections at least in view of the following exemplary comments.

Of these rejected claims, only claims 1 and 11-13 are independent. These independent claims *inter alia* and in some variation recite: a first recording section that is provided in correspondence with the first medium supply section and that performs recording on the

recording medium supplied by the first medium supply section; and a second recording section that is provided in correspondence with the second medium supply section and that performs recording on the recording medium supplied by the second medium supply section. The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the first and second sections, each recording section being provided with its own medium supply section and each recording section recording on the medium from the corresponding medium supply section.

For at least these exemplary reasons, claims 1 and 11-13 are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw these grounds of rejections of claims 1 and 11-13. Claims 2-9 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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